# MONTEREY NEWS

AUGUST 1990


## TOWN NEWS

**Selectmen's Meetings**

Several townspeople who are unhappy about the earth barrier erected on the Route 23 property of Mr. Winfield Ogden attended the Selectmen's meeting on July 16. Selectman Georgiana O'Connell gave a brief history of the events pertaining to the barrier. She said that the Tree Warden and the Highway Superintendent had been consulted on various aspects of the project and that the Selectmen had approved a permit for the relocation of a drain. She maintained that at no time had permission or a permit been given to construct a 5½-foot-tall earthen barrier in what the Board believes may be the Town right of way.

According to Mr. Ogden, the project has been in progress for over two years. During that time, he has been in communication with the Tree Warden, who was advising him on plantings, and with the Highway Superintendent, who advised him on the width of the road shoulder to be maintained for safe snow removal. With the bank eroding, the guardrails deteriorating and two fatal accidents in the past few years at this site, Mr. Ogden felt he was both providing for his own privacy and improving the safety of the road. When asked about his lack of a permit, Mr. Ogden stated that he was unaware that the barrier would be on Town property, and since he felt he had consulted the proper people and acted in good faith, he thought a permit would be unnecessary.

Several townspeople expressed dismay over the appearance of the barrier and the fact that it blocks an especially lovely view. Citing safety factors, former Selectman Richard Tryon said that the barrier could act as a snow fence, causing the road to fill with snow and creating a possible ice build-up. Highway Superintendent Don Amstead did not support this view.

*Future Monterey softball stars: Riley Murkett and Shawnee Tannenbaum*

MAGGIE LEONARD

Some citizens questioned the right of R. W. Tryon Construction Co. to disrupt traffic on Route 23 during the project and post "Travel at your own risk" signs. When questioned about this point, the Highway Superintendent made it clear that Tryon Construction was bound by law to alert the public of the liability. He also pointed out that the owner and operator of the company, Ray Tryon, is the Town Constable and sufficiently qualified to direct traffic.

No further action can be taken by the Board of Selectmen until they obtain an official survey signed by the County Surveying Engineer to determine if the barrier violates the Town right of way.

In other news, Indian Line Farm has been granted permission to drop off produce at the Town Hall on Fridays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. from June through December. Indian Line Farm is a community supported agriculture project that provides its members with organic produce.

Selectman Bill Bohn represented Monterey at the annual meeting of the District Department of Veterans' Services on June 27 at the Great Barrington Town Hall. Mr. Bohn reported that there are 116 veterans in Monterey. He encouraged all veterans to register with the Department of Veterans' Services. He explained that many veterans do not realize that they may be eligible for benefits or services.

On July 9 at 8 p.m. bids for contract excavation work for the Town were opened. Two bids were received, one from Mt. Everett Landscaping and the other from R. W. Tryon Construction Co. It was moved by Selectman O'Connell and seconded by Selectman Bohn to award the contract to R. W. Tryon Construction, the low bidder on the project.

The Town Hall Planning Committee met with the Board of Selectmen on July 16 at 7 p.m. Jed Lipsky was appointed chair of the Committee. Committee members expressed concern about the lack of communication with the Board of Selectmen and questioned the validity of various expenditures that had been made without the Committee's input. It was agreed that in the future all expenditure plans will be initiated by the Town Hall Planning Committee. The present Town Hall badly needs a new septic system—an appropriation of $10,000 for this purpose is the first article on the warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held July 20. The Committee concurred with the Selectmen that the Town should build the maximum size septic system allowable for the number of successful perc tests obtained.

The following building permit applications were approved: Bonnie Cox for the construction of a greenhouse addition to her Stevens Lake Estates house; Ruth Green for the construction of an addition to her Norwalk Acres Road house; Ira Flatow for the replacement of a deck at his Lake Garfield home; the Stevens Lake Association for the construction of a maintenance shed on property located on Route 23; the Cherneffs for a renovation of their Hupi Woods Circle home.

— Maggie Leonard


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## CHURCH NEWS

For the first time in many years our church will hold a Summer Vacation Bible School. Our theme will be KIDS OF COURAGE and will focus on stories of courageous men and women in the Bible, stories of courage from the life of Jesus, and discovering what it can mean to become a kid full of the same kind of courage. That discovery can be a lot of fun, as kids will find out. The morning meetings will include not only storytelling but also drawing, collages, simple puppet-making, music and other fun.

We will meet the week of August 20-24 from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the church social room. Monday through Thursday, examples of different kinds of expressions of courage form the theme:

1. The courage to act on what you know is right (even if other people think you're being stupid)
2. The courage not to act when you know the action is wrong
3. The courage to act for others' good (even if it's scary)
4. The courage to believe the Good News (even if things look awful)

On Friday, the kids will prepare a presentation to share their learning with their parents and friends. Everyone is welcome to share in this closing celebration from 11:15-12:00 on Friday, August 24.

MaryKate Jordan will provide our leadership during this special week. MaryKate is a storyteller, author, minister and for many years an elementary school art teacher. All kids through the age of 12 are invited to attend. To register, contact MaryKate at 528-5557 or call the church office (528-5850).

— Cliff Aerie

## ANOTHER WHITE GOODS DISPOSAL DAY

The Monterey Disposal Area will again accept white goods on Saturday, August 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost is $10 per load, payable by check to the Town of Monterey.

## CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM

Fall plans include: Active Parenting classes, Parent to Parent Volunteer training, and parent-child playgroups. Please call 528-9311 if you are interested in any of these programs.

Our summer activities will include the following for August:

**August 8**— Picnic at Prospect Lake, Egremont. There is an admission charge for parking. Boats and tubes can be rented. A snack bar and game room are also available. We will need a head count for this. Meet at CHP at 10:30 a.m. if you need to follow someone. Time: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or as long as you wish.

**August 14**— Robbins-Zust Marionette Show, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, 11 a.m. Mixed Company, Rosseter Street, Great Barrington. Call for ticket reservations. Thanks to the Arts Councils of Sheffield, Great Barrington, and Otis, we are able to offer free tickets to families.

**August 22**— Picnic at York Lake, Route 183, New Marlborough. Bring a picnic lunch. Special performance of clown and fencing mime by Antonia Small and Markus Schmid. Meet at Children's Health Program at 10:30 a.m. if you need to follow someone.

For those of you who have asked about diaper service: Call 1-800-44-STORK for more information.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) food supplement program is located at the Children's Health Program, 54 Castle Street, Great Barrington. Vouchers for formula, milk, cheese and other nutritional foods are available for children under five, and pregnant and nursing women. There are income guidelines. Call 528-0457 for more information about the program.

— Claudette Callahan

*"God's Song is a rich diversity of divine melodies sung by the human family. Woven into a rainbow chorus we celebrate together our journey of faith."*

COME SHARE THE SPIRIT!

The Monterey United Church of Christ
Sunday Worship Celebration
10:00 A.M.

## BRINGING RAJEE HOME — UPDATE

On Saturday morning, June 30, the temperature in New Delhi, India, was already soaring into the 90s. The humid air hung like a wet blanket over the city. The monsoon season was about to begin. Everyone was anxiously awaiting the cooling rains that would bring welcome relief from the sweltering heat.

Meanwhile, in room 210 of the YMCA Hostel on Jai Singh Street, we awaited a knock on the door that would change our lives forever. Finally we heard the sound we were expecting, and a moment later we were embracing six-year-old Rajee. There was no hesitation at all on her part. At first glance she recognized Mommy and Daddy from the photographs and greeted us with open arms. It was a special moment we'll always treasure.

Spending several days in Rajee's homeland with her was a wonderful experience and went a long way to bond our relationship. Rajee is from the city of Amritsar in the northern province of the Punjab and is, undoubtedly, of Sikh background. On our first day together (after a brief monsoon shower) we went for a walk and discovered a Sikh temple a few blocks from our hotel. We were invited to take off our shoes, cover our heads and enter the shrine. A gracious Sikh elder gave us a tour, explained their historical heritage and showed us the huge eating pavilion where they provide free meals for all who enter. When he learned that Rajee could not walk, he bathed her knees with holy water and promised to offer prayers for her healing. The next morning we attended Christian services at the Delhi Free Church where, during communion, the Indian pastor bestowed a blessing upon Rajee.

The symbolism of those two events — blessings in her native religion and that of her new parents — had a significant impact on us. Not only was she receiving a new family but we, if only in a small way, were also broadening our family's heritage. If we had not had the opportunity to travel to India we would not have the same insights into Rajee's background and what it means to be a child in that culture.

We arrived back in the U. S. on the fourth of July after an eighteen-hour plane flight. It felt good to be back on American soil and begin our new adventure together. Although Rajee has been learning English only since April, she can count to fifty, knows her alphabet and is already beginning to speak in full sentences. We are also learning from her and singing simple songs in her native tongue.

Rajee's initial visit to the Shriner's Hospital included a lot of poking and prodding, measuring the movement in her legs, and determining the extent of dislocation in her hips. It appears that her stay in the hospital may be quite lengthy: three weeks in traction before surgery followed by an additional three weeks post-operative care. Then, depending on the extent of surgery, she may be in a full body cast for two months. It's still too early to tell how much healing is possible, but after considerable physical therapy she will be fitted with lightweight braces and crutches which will allow her to move about on her legs.

It's been an exciting first few weeks in the Aerie household. Arianna and Joshua enjoy carrying her about and introducing new elements into Rajee's experience. Every day brings new discoveries and delights — for Rajee and us.

Once again we offer a grateful "thank you" to all of you who have supported us through this amazing process.

— Jan and Cliff Aerie

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## MONTEREY SUMMER FESTIVAL

The Party's over, and it was fun! Great weather, good vibes, frisky ponies.

We'd like to hear what you thought about the festival, and we'd like to hear from you who want to help make it happen next year. Send comments, suggestions and offers of help to The Little Red Hen, Box 264, Monterey, MA 01245.

Special thanks from the Summer Festival Committee to:

Joel Schick ... Eileen Clawson ... The Monterey Fire Company ... The United Church of Christ ... Susan Sellew ... David Raney ... Fred Carlisle ... Eric Pedersen ... Camp Half Moon ... Ernie and Mary Heath and family ... Joan O'Brien ... Melissa and Bruce Mason ... Claudette Callahan ... Kevin Grady ... Jane and Bob Volckhausen ... Laura Chirico ... Jim Thomas ... Neal Johnson ... Betsy and Tracy Wood ... Marion Johnson ... Camille Maye ... All who donated to the Church's successful flea market ... Marge and Gerry McMahon ... Maynard Forbes ... Judy Durlack ... Susan Castells ... Maureen O'Brien ... Bonner McAllester ... The Amidon Family ... Pandora ... John Humphrey ... Arnie Hayes ... Joe Baker ... Sven Aas and friends ... Gould Farm ... King Kong ... Lynn and Aaron Leavitt ... John Blount ... Russell Ingersol ... Vicki Reed ... Priscilla Gulliver ... Donna Rossing ... Scott Steele ... Bob Thieriot and his summer visitors ... Linda Gero ... Kim Gero ... Spud, Mary's lamb ... Suzie Brennan ... Kathy Whitten ... UCC Choir ... Vikki True ... Oren Rosenthal ... Nancy Loder ... Eric Hammer ... Bobby Pearson ... Monterey Land Trust ... Carol Sadlowski ... Tim Freeman and Stephanie ... Bev Zinn.

To those whom we inadvertently omitted, please forgive us and know that we are grateful to you.

ATTENTION: Photographers and videographers at Monterey Festival: We'd like copies of good shots of parade floats, activities and evocative scenes to save for posterity. Contact Ellen Pearson at 528-1988 to arrange for donation or duplication. Thanks.

— Donna, Milly and Ellen

## LAND TRUST NEWS

The Monterey Preservation Land Trust Board of Directors held their more-or-less monthly meeting on July 16. Storrs Olds and Dave Whitten attended as guests, and their input was a welcome addition to the discussions. Topics which are often covered at these meetings range from pending conservation protection for properties in Monterey to potential land acquisition to affordable housing opportunities. At the July meeting, Land Trust participation and support for the *Berkshire Green* magazine generated considerable talk.

Peter Vallianos, legal advisor as well as Land Trust member, attended a conference of the Land Trust Alliance in June. Nearly 4,000 representatives from organizations nationwide gathered in Philadelphia to learn and disseminate information on the ways trusts are meeting the challenges of our changing, diverse landscape. We are fortunate to be sharing in this wealth of resources and look forward to being part of this potentially powerful network of ideas and activities.

The 1990 Annual Meeting and election of officers has been scheduled for Saturday, September 15. We will convene at Lew and Joyce Scheffey's home on Wellman Road, time to be announced. If you are interested in serving as a member of the Board of Directors, please call Andrea Chase, of the nominating committee, at 528-2521. The Board of Directors welcomes candidates with fresh perspectives! In any event, all Land Trust members (and town residents) are invited to attend the Annual Meeting. For additional information, please call MPLT President Roger Tryon at 528-4091.

— Carol Edelman

## BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT COMPLETED

Visitors to the center of the village will notice a new look to the safety barricade that keeps us from stepping into the storm drain in front of the church. It has been fitted with flower boxes made by Henry Schick and planted with pink and red impatiens by Henry, and Marge and Gerry McMahon. Thank you, folks!

## REPORT FROM THE MONTEREY NATURE WALKERS

The Monterey Nature Walkers, ages 6 to 12, have been down the Konkapot in Bidwell Park, around Brewer Pond on the public footpath, over to Benedict Pond to walk the Pond Loop Trail, and up Hunger Mountain. We look forward to our last session, our aquatic grand finale on the lake, courtesy of Lena Pedersen and the Kinne's Grove rowboat flotilla.

We have examined a luna moth, sundry caterpillars, and deer tracks large and small, and have compared the vegetation of the lower levels of Beartown State Forest with the windswept alpine ecology on top of Hunger Mountain. From the top of the mountain, we looked down on cedar waxwings (perhaps the handsomest of all birds), feasting on service berries; in Bidwell Park we dug for ground peas; and in the soft mud near Brewer Pond we saw the kind of track a deer leaves when it is running, leaping, landing heavily, with its hoof spread.

Once again the outdoor classroom of Greater Monterey has provided a wealth of lessons, puzzles, subjects for further study, and places of great beauty for the students in the nature class.

— Bonner McAllester

SUSAN McALLESTER

*Bonner McAllester and Sarah Pedersen check out maple leaves*

## KARL FINGER INAUGURATES FOLK DANCING

On July 5, Karl Finger of Monterey led the "kick-off party" that inaugurated the weekly folk dance evenings of the South Berkshire Folk Dance Group. This group is meeting every Thursday at the Housatonic Community Center and plans to continue throughout the year.

Anybody who is interested is invited to come (the sessions are at 7:30 p.m.). Please tell your friends. For further information call Adrian Alcalá or Sharon True, 528-2465; Lelia Couzyn, 528-4611; Shirley or Irv Yost, 528-1277.

## MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met July 18 and observed Youth Night. Acting Master was Susan Legeyt Van Deusen; Steward was Philip Legeyt, and Bruce Barnum was Assistant Steward. The program included a poem written by the Lecturer's niece, Jacki Lummus.

The Grange has entered the state Community Service Contest.

The Master was surprised with a mock birthday cake made by members and a real birthday cake made by Betty Wilber.

The food sale at the Monterey Summer Festival was a success, and the Grange wants to thank all who helped.

The next meeting will be August 15, when we honor Pomona.

— Mary Wallace, Lecturer

## LAKE GARFIELD ASSOCIATION NEWS

The report on the state of Lake Garfield by Associated Environmental Scientists is completed and available for inspection in the Monterey Library. What follows is a summary of the findings.

The lake had been studied at two earlier times, 1976 and 1986, but in many regards the AES was the most comprehensive. The three studies form a retrospective of changes in the lake during the last 14 years. The conclusion of this examination was as expected: there has been a consistent decline in the quality of the lake, with the changes during the last four years being absolutely dramatic. There have been large changes in almost all of the important parameters measured. The amounts of the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus have skyrocketed since 1976. Compared to 1976, the concentration of ammonia and nitrates, the important forms of nitrogen, had increased 7½ fold by 1986 and 35 fold by 1990. The concentration of phosphates increased 15 fold by 1986 and 88 fold by 1990. Nitrogen and phosphorus are the major nutrients for plants. There is a second series of events that indicate the lake status is rapidly declining. In the deep part of the lake dissolved oxygen, essential for fish life, is depleted. The lake is rapidly becoming a better place to grow plants than to swim, boat or fish.

Although the test results showing the eutrophication of the lake are very clear, the reason for the decline is less clear. However, a number of contributing factors have been identified:

1) Most rooted aquatic plants grow in water less than ten feet deep. Lake Garfield is a shallow lake, and over half of it is less than ten feet deep.
2) The watershed area draining into Lake Garfield is very small — less than ten times the area of the lake itself. Consequently, the flow of water from brooks and streams into the lake is limited. AES estimates that only 38% of the water entering the lake comes from the inlet brooks, while 55% comes from *ground water*.
3) The flow of water through the lake is low, and the nutrients are not rapidly flushed out of the lake.
4) The nutrients are converted to plant materials during plant growth. Since we have not been harvesting the plants, this process keeps the nutrients in the lake. At the end of the summer, the plants die and sink to the bottom. Much of this plant material finds its way into the deepest part of the lake and accumulates there. Decay of the plant material returns the nutrients to the lake water. The release of phosphate from the sediment at the deepest part of the lake can be 2½ times that entering the lake from all other sources combined. This phosphate release is appreciable only under anaerobic conditions; i.e., in the absence of oxygen. Consequently, the depletion of oxygen in the lower strata of the lake is of great concern because it can translate into high phosphate concentrations in the lake. Some of the recommendations proposed by AES address this issue.

AES recommended several simultaneous actions: (1) limiting the flow of nutrients into the lake, (2) trapping the nutrients already in the lake in a form that is not useful for plant growth, (3) physically removing nutrients from the lake, and (4) limiting weed growth by drawdown.

It is likely that there are several sources of nutrients entering the lake, but the fact that 55% of the water entering the lake comes from ground water suggests that nutrients entering the soil in septic waste fields could easily find their way into the lake. Consequently, the AES recommends that attention be paid to the types of detergents and household products used in Monterey. Furthermore, the septic waste systems servicing the homes in the watershed area should be pumped out every two to three years to maintain their effectiveness and to limit the flow of nutrients into the lake.

The costs of various strategies for nutrient reduction and weed control range from zero up to half a million dollars. The Lake Garfield Association through its Lake Management Committee is obtaining second opinions and firmer estimates of the costs associated with each management strategy. The Committee will report on its investigation at the September 1 Lake Garfield Association meeting at the dam. Those interested are invited to attend that meeting. The Association will formulate its recommendations of specific measures to be taken to control weed growth and the eutrophication of the lake. These recommendations will be submitted to the Selectmen for their consideration.

— Robert Lazzarini
Lake Management Committee

## WHO'S WHO IN MONTEREY— The Quisenberrys

*Standing: Karl, Karen, Jennie*
*Kneeling: Nancy, Keith, Shirley*
*Sitting: Kirsten, Squirt, David, Lucky*

"This is home; we gather here. We plan to celebrate our forty-third anniversary here." This kind of warm feeling for Monterey, as expressed by Shirley and Karl Quisenberry, is felt by most of the second-home owners who constitute something like half of our population. A fourth generation in the Quisenberry family is now coming up to share that feeling.

It began with Shirley's parents, Velva and Don Sabin, who rented their house on Bidwell Road and then, in 1952, bought it. They did so in consultation with Dick Bidwell, whose carpentry gave the house much of its charm and durability. It was Don Sabin who promulgated the change in the name of Lake Road to honor the builder, hunter, wit, and anecdotist who was descended from Monterey's first minister, Adonijah Bidwell.

Don Sabin was second in command at UNICEF, in charge, among other things, of the production and distribution of the powdered milk so important to the health of children in many parts of the world after World War II. Velva was also in the United Nations as an observer for the American Association of University Women. Shirley has continued the family interest in these two institutions. She describes herself as a professional volunteer and is currently president of the Texas Division of the United Nations Association and chair of the International Relations Committee of the Texas AAUW.

She was active in the YWCA as a student at the University of Nebraska, and this led her to meeting Karl when he returned from the Navy to finish his degree in physics. They did not meet at the University, though, but in a blizzard at a "Y" conference in Estes Park, Colorado. They graduated together in 1949 in the first group of married student couples in the University's history.

After Karl's PhD from the University of Minnesota, he became a physics professor at the University of Pittsburgh. On a sabbatical leave in 1961, Karl thought he would try the industrial world and found it so educational that he never returned to academe. For seventeen years he worked in research and development in nuclear physics at General Electric in Schenectady, and that is when the Quisenberrys, augmented by Keith, Nancy and David, began coming to Monterey in earnest.

The children were interested not only in summers on the lake but also in winter skiing at Butternut; the house became the focus for vacations and other gatherings of every sort. The young people took up residence with their grandparents on Bidwell Road even when Shirley and Karl couldn't be there. Don and Velva Sabin were dedicated to fishing, and the fillets of sunfish in the freezer are a special memory. Motor boating and water skiing were added to the sports events as the children got older. Other young people from around the lake often gathered at the hospitable Quisenberry home, as did college classmates as the junior members of the family, all three, attended the University of Illinois.

In 1977, Karl moved on to the Schlumberger Company, oil well surveyors from one end of the world to the other. He helped develop the sophisticated devices that explore the depths of the earth by processes including the use of gamma rays, neutrons, and electromagnetism. His work took him to oil countries everywhere, including places where tourists never trod. When possible, Shirley came along. He worked out of Ridgefield, Connecticut, for four years and then was in charge of a large force of scientists and technicians in Houston until he retired in 1986.

Their friends in Houston, the theater, and the

symphony, their ties to the Unitarian Church there, and the wonderful winter weather will keep the Quisenberrys in Texas for a good part of each year. The Sabins, now in their 90s, are there as well. But the children are all in the East, and the house on Bidwell Road will continue to be "home," and the gathering place. Keith is now a pilot for US Air. He and Karen have produced Kirsten, the first grandchild. Nancy, an MBA in marketing, is starting a business career, and David, married to Jennie, is an architect with Skidmore, Owings and Merrill Co. in New York.

This small, seemingly isolated town has produced people who have traveled the world and explored the gamut of occupations. Its attractions have also, for years, drawn people from the wide world to itself, as the long saga of the Quisenberry family shows. Our second-home owners do much to give quiet Monterey its broad perspectives.

— David P. McAllester

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## SUNDAY SOFTBALL: A MONTEREY TRADITION

We live in a world where everything changes. Restaurants are at first trendy, then vacant; the President changes his mind about taxes; and fashion is like the weather . . . if you don't like it, wait a minute. There is one thing in this world, however, that you can count on: there is always a softball game at Greene Park on a summer Sunday.

According to Susy Kaufman, team statistician and historian, the Sunday game began at the Mepal House in New Marlboro around 1975. Laid-back New York transplants would show up at the leisurely hour of noon. At that point the game had, as Ms. Kaufman describes in *The Softball Chronicles*, a "stream of consciousness quality." Then the game moved to Greene Park in Monterey, where occasionally there was competition from the Little League. Then the would-be boys and girls of summer had to play in a field on Hupi Road where the grass was so tall some of the shorter players were barely visible.

That was fifteen years ago. Nowadays, players arrive at 10:30. Ranks have swelled to twelve players per team. Occasionally there are just too many people for one game. Many of the veteran softball players expressed dismay at this article, fearing publicity would further popularize the Sunday game. Someone complained that too many people on the field makes for collisions. Another stated that it "messes up the vibes." Softball wanna-bees are encouraged to start another game.

The style of the softball game has evolved through the years, but the substance has remained pretty much the same: to be out there on Sunday morning with the grass under your feet, the sun on your shoulder, and the ball in your glove. Along with the Fire Company Steak Roast and the Summer Festival, it just wouldn't be summer in Monterey without Sunday Softball at Greene Park.

— Maggie Leonard

PHOTOS BY MAGGIE LEONARD

*Mickey Friedman pitching, John Blount shortstop*

*Stefan Grotz at bat (it was a home run)*

*Photos by Susan McAllester and Joel Schick*

*Drum majors*

*. . . and pom-pom girls*

*The Monterey Selectmen and assistants*

*The Saints came marching down Main Street*

*Noah's Ark*

*–A gorilla came to the Carnival of the Animals*

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## MARINE SCIENCE AND ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE GARDEN

Every year we go to summer school up the hill in our garden. There we take on a full academic load which includes plant physiology, art, music (birdsong), mathematics, literature, geology, chemistry, and of course invertebrate zoology, which usually focuses rather heavily upon insects. Another subject we enjoy up there in our university (the campus is 100 feet by 100 feet) is archaeology.

We dig carefully through the layers, exposing secrets of the past, turning up evidence which gives us a picture of bygone days in a nearby human civilization, namely ourselves.

One year it was revealed in University of the Garden, Archaeology 101, that the nearby civilization had skirmished with an army of small adversaries which had wings and beaks and wishbones. The human civilization apparently slaughtered the enemy and heaped their bodies in a mass grave. Our archaeologists continue to turn up little skulls and legbones, years after the event.

This year we are studying marine invertebrates, namely *Mytilus edulis*, the bivalve mollusks we call "mussels." Obviously the people we are investigating had some access to the intertidal zone of the north Atlantic, either by travel or by trading with groups from that area.

Each day of digging brings us more and more of the lovely blue-black shells. They are pearly, lustrous on the inner surfaces, and our younger students collect them in little heaps all around the campus, decorating various rocks and raised beds with these calcareous marine remains.

Since we can't imagine a war with sessile marine mollusks, we are assuming the shells to be evidence

of feasting. We imagine, in fact we *remember*, the inhabitants sitting around in some primitive but jolly situation, munching and slurping on steamed mussels. It must have been wonderful; it *was* wonderful. We also can picture their trip to the sea, the excitement of the landlocked Berkshire residents as they dashed across the rocks toward great crashing breakers, searching the tidepools for *Mytilus edulis*.

These mussels are more or less clams. We have clams right here in our lakes and ponds, and some people call these freshwater clams "mussels." The main difference between the marine and the freshwater types is their lifestyle. In the sea they have developed an attached habit, anchored to rocks by strong stretchy strands called byssus or byssal threads. In lakes and ponds the clams live in soft substrate, mud or sand, and they are quite mobile. They have a single foot which they extend down into the sand. This appendage is a bit like a water balloon. The far end of it can be filled up with fluid (blood), making a bulbous anchor. Then the clam pulls itself forward, toward the anchor.

The marine mussels have a foot, too, but it is small and is not used for direct locomotion. Instead, it contains a gland which produces the byssal threads for attachment. The little foot is extended to the substrate (usually a rock) and then a stream of liquid byssus is poured down a groove. This material hits the rock, makes a little pad, and hardens up almost immediately. The foot moves around this way and that, pouring more threads until the animal is fastened in all directions. Then, no matter how the waves toss it around, the mussel is secure. If for some reason the mussel needs to move, or if some curious undergraduate yanks it loose for closer examination, it can detach itself from existing threads and make new ones any time. Young mussels in a glass of water can climb right up the vertical sides by putting their feet up, laying out a thread, pulling up on it, then laying out new threads higher up.

Sixty years ago British scientists did an economic study of marine mussels and found that one acre of mussel beds can produce 40,000 pounds of mussels. Without the shells, this is 10,000 pounds of meat which has a "fuel value" of 3,000,000 calories. There is no known system of cultivation of agricultural land which can be so productive of animal food. For instance, the average yield of beef, in calories, is 120,000 per acre per year.

What we grow in our garden cannot be measured in calories alone. We have young students working (and eating) there, year after year, piling up the questions and knowledge and discoveries like so many pearly clamshells on a rock. How many years does it take to graduate? Many. But fortunately the tuition is free.

— Bonner J. McAllester


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### *Where Peace Abounds*

*There's a calm and peaceful stillness*
*In the early morning hours;*
*A quietude known only to a few—*
*Those who rise before the daybreak*
*And watch the sun come up*
*Over mountains and the meadows*
*Wet with dew.*
*Where the mist is slowly rising*
*Along the meadow stream*
*And here and there a bird begins to sing.*
*A calm that lifts one's spirits*
*As he breathes the country air*
*With its refreshing fragrance*
*In the spring.*
*There's a peacefulness in summer*
*When the smell of new-mown hay*
*Is wafted on the breezes soft and warm*
*As the cows from the pasture*
*Slowly wend their way*
*Where the bees among the clover linger long;*
*And assurance in the rainbow*
*After sudden summer rain*
*When its arch of pastel splendor*
*Spans the sky.*
*There's a peace here in the country*
*No city street can claim*
*When the wind among the pine trees*
*softly sigh.*

— Eleanor Kimberley

### *"Limping" Haiku*

*I have walked a lonely path*
*Have found it long*
*But interesting.*

*I have walked a peopled path*
*Have found it lonely*
*And strange.*

*I have walked a rain-soaked path*
*Have found it sloppy*
*And gloried in it.*

*I have walked on trestles high*
*Have felt courageous*
*But insecure.*

*I have walked a mountain path*
*Have climbed, have struggled*
*Been inspired.*

— Margaret D. Clarke

VICKI REED

### *Collectibles*

*I love ivory and tortoise shell*
*Found in musty antique shops.*
*Little boxes intrigue me.*
*And paisley shawls are tops.*
*I admire rich embroidery.*
*Romantic chests are great.*
*Old things with new uses please me.*
*Leather-bound books are first-rate.*
*A small music box that is working*
*is a treasure beyond price.*
*Brass elephant bells from India*
*Are exotic as strange spice.*
*I find distinction and harmony*
*In these items from yesterday.*
*Their rarity attracts me.*
*No caution do I display.*

— Nancy Adams

MORGAN SCHICK

### *Grey-Float and Quick-Red*

*The grey squirrel, lighter than air, but of the earth,*
*Leaps, then floats, leaps, then floats, suspended*
*By supple spine, by drifting, cloudy tail.*
*His smaller cousin, quick-red, tracks the girth*
*Of a black oak in one swift rush, offended*
*At something, scolding, darts, stops to rail,*
*Flies from twig to twig, terrestrial bird,*
*His consonants crisp, his vowels crossly slurred.*

— David P. McAllester

### *The Moon that Mellows*

To the memory of
K. F.

*Shadows are forms of thoughts that long have passed,*
*Of secret longings: humble, treasured things*
*Weaving their way into our nights unasked,*
*As sure to be there as the kettle sings.*
*They come out heedlessly, sometimes beguiling,*
*Thoughts that were better buried, left to die,*
*A pot of tea, her half-hooked rug, the filing*
*Of all my favorite recipes—bread or pie.*

*Why does she come again, once more recalling*
*The moon that mellows and the night's vast charms?*
*Why must I weep for her? The stars are falling,*
*Is it like this through twice these twenty farms?*
*When I grow old myself, and feel forgot,*
*I'll bring this out—this teacup that she bought.*

— Sue Moody

### *Poem for Our Cat, Chutney*

*Who had the word*
*That purred?*

— Sudi Baker

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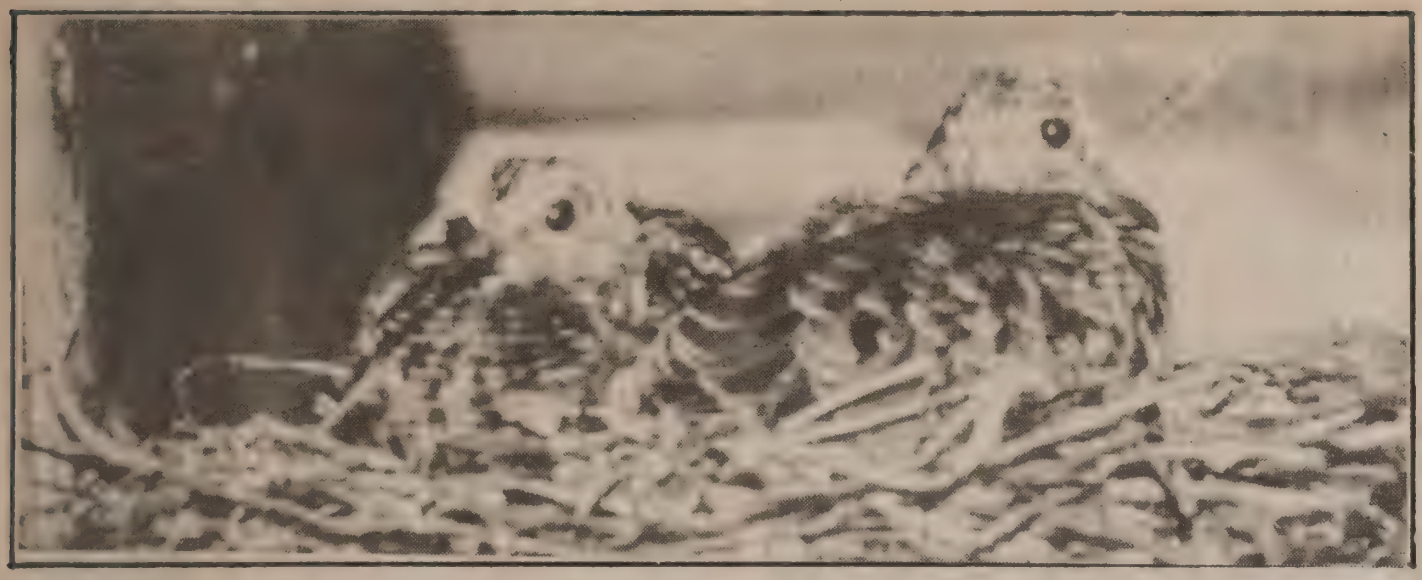

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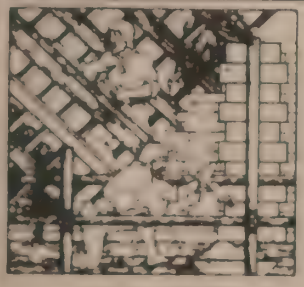

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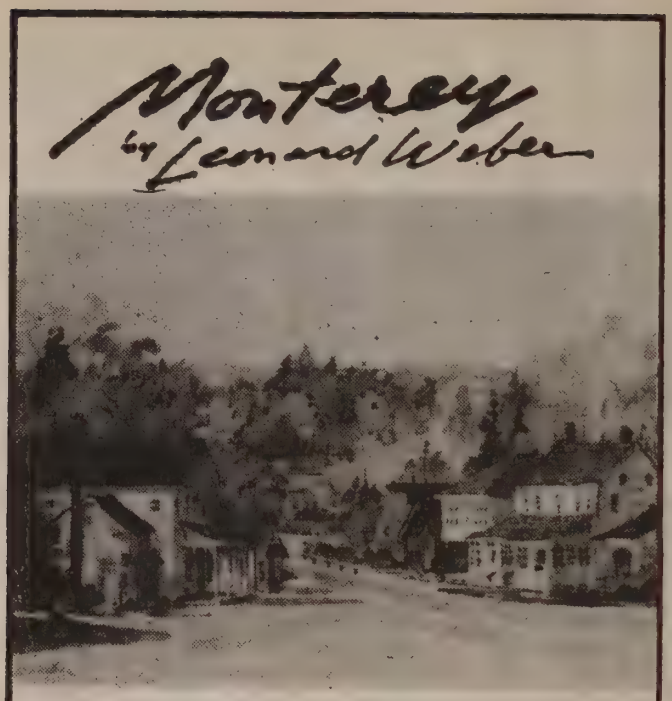


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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

In late winter our usually robust horse looked like a rack of bones. After pumping the grain to him for eight weeks with no improvement, we had the vet test him for Lyme disease. He tested positive. We treated him for two weeks with megadose antibiotics. Last week a neighbor's dog died from the disease, prompting us to test all of our stock and two family dogs. This time the previously afflicted horse tested negative—an indication that the treatment was effective, but no assurance that he won't be reinfected this afternoon. One of the dogs tested high positive. This prompted a bit of research into the extent of the disease in this area, as the local media does not treat this subject as if it were the present menace to the public health that I believe it is. My brief and informal investigation (a half hour on the phone with a veterinarian and a lab technician) revealed the following: Ashley Falls, seven dogs diagnosed in 1989; New Marlborough, two horses and two dogs in 1990; Blandford, one child in 1989; Colebrook, Connecticut, 42 cows in a herd of 60; and Fairview Hospital Emergency Room, three people tested positive in 1989.

As the best cure is prevention, cover yourself, tick-check your friends and children often, blood-test your animals ($18) and/or yourselves ($55.95 through MetPath). For humans a urine test is thought by some diagnosticians to be more accurate. In any case, don't treat it lightly. It's a devastating condition.

— Leslie Desmond

*A recent news report indicated that a Lyme disease vaccine for dogs has been developed and will most likely be available from local veterinarians in time for tick season next year. The report mentioned nothing about a vaccine for horses or other animals but did say that a vaccine for humans was several years away. — Ed.*

# HELP THE *MONTEREY NEWS* BECOME SECOND CLASS

The *Monterey News* has always been mailed via third class mail. The system is fairly uncomplicated and relatively inexpensive. For the 300 families who receive their paper at Monterey addresses, the third class system is also efficient—the papers are in your mailboxes in one day. However, the 900 families who get the *Monterey News* at non-Monterey addresses (whether those addresses are Great Barrington or California) are not as lucky. Some times, the papers arrive within a week of mailing. More often, they take two or three. Sometimes they don't arrive at all.

The solution to our delivery problem is a second class permit. Second class mail is for periodicals, and as magazine subscribers know, it generally works pretty well. However, obtaining a second class permit is far more difficult than getting a third class permit.

All the difficulties notwithstanding, we do plan to try for second class status. The *Monterey News* does not charge for subscriptions, so we must meet the requirements for a "requester publication." One of those requirements specifies that the publication be at least 24 pages long. Because the paper runs only 20 pages more often than not, we have down-sized it slightly so that the same amount of material will fit into 24 pages.

The other important requirement is that we have on file written requests for the paper from at least half the people who receive it. Our usual press run is 1,300 copies, to cover all copies mailed out, plus those distributed at the General Store. That means we need 650 requests on hand before we can even begin the application process. Please take a minute right now to fill in the coupon and mail it. And don't forget to sign it—unsigned requests are not valid.

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August 1, 1990

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## PERSONAL NOTES

Our congratulations to **Alan Rose** and **Carmen Tagle**, whose son **Ariel Tagle Rose** was born on April 10. Along with their dog Keesey, they all have been having a wonderful time in Monterey.

Congratulations also to **Andreana Pizzichemi** and **James Martin Perkins**, who were married on May 19 in Sheffield. Andreana is the daughter of **Elizabeth Pizzichemi** of Pixley Road, and James hails from Springfield, Massachusetts. Following a wedding trip to Florida and a cruise to the Bahamas, the couple will reside in Westfield.

Our best wishes to **Eric Sachs** and **Marji Purisch**, who will be married in Coral Gables, Florida, in October. Eric, who attended Northwestern University, and Marji, a graduate of the University of Florida, met in law school at the University of Miami. Eric is the son of **Marvin** and **Barbara Sachs** of Tyringham Road. Congratulations to all of you!

**Ann Burns Smith** is spending early August in Monterey with her mother, **Louise Burns**. Ann, who is now living in Laramie, Wyoming, has all her children in tow also — **Leana**, **Billy**, **Kaylyn**, **Chelsey** and **Matthew**. There are two birthdays to celebrate during their visit — should be a great time for all.

Monterey was represented in the Sheffield Art League's juried show in July by **Edith Wilson**'s oil painting, *Binney Pond*, and **Lois Ryder**'s scratchboard, *Lilacs 9*.

Congratulations to **Bob Hebert** of Tyringham Road, well-known area race car driver, who recently completed the Firestone Firehawk at Watkins Glen, placing eleventh overall and seventh in class from a starting field of 74 cars. Driving a 1988 Pontiac Firebird prepared by Bill West of West Engineering in New Marlborough, car and driver were without mishap, completing 1,769 miles in a little over 24 hours, with top speeds of 122 mph. Hats off!


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**Joan Reed** and **Eleanor Kimberley** attended the New England Camera Club Conference at UMass, Amherst, July 13 to 15. Photographers from all over the United States and Canada gave illustrated lectures in various fields of photography. There were also competitions for black-and-white photographs and color slides.

Very Happy Birthday wishes to **Richard Sheridan** on July 23, to **Chelsey Smith** on August 2, to **David McAllester** on August 6, to **Ann Burns Smith** on August 7, to **Michelle Grotz** on August 20, to accomplished toymaker **Alton Heath** — his 90th! — on August 22, and to **Ann McGinley** on August 26.

Your contributions are most appreciated! Please remember the deadline of the fifteenth of the month and jot down your news items — drop them at the General Store or in the mail to me, just Route 23; or give me a call evenings at 528-4519.

— Stephanie Grotz

## CANOE FLOTILLA ON LAKE GARFIELD

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We gratefully acknowledge contributions from the following people during the last month:

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## CALENDAR

*Tuesday, August 7*—Prayer breakfast at Rock Ridge, 7:00 a.m.

*Wednesday, August 8*—Community Dinner. 6:30 p.m. in the church basement. MaryKate Jordan, editor of the *Parsley-Sage Quarterly Review*, will present a program about herbs.

*Thursday, August 9*—Friends of Silence meditation at Rock Ridge. 7:30 a.m.

*Saturday, August 11*—Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. This program is open to anyone. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults, $4; children, $1 to dance until intermission. Information: (413) 528-9385.

*Saturday, August 18*—Berkshire County Youth Fair. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the 4-H Fairgrounds, Holmes Road, Pittsfield. Free activities and contests for all, including llama show, animal exhibits and a concert by David Grover. For information, call 448-8285.

*Monday, August 20-Friday, August 24*—Summer Vacation Bible School at the church. 9:30 a.m.-12 noon.

*Saturday, August 25*—Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. This program is for people who have done it before. Joe Baker calling, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Admission $4. Information: 528-9385.

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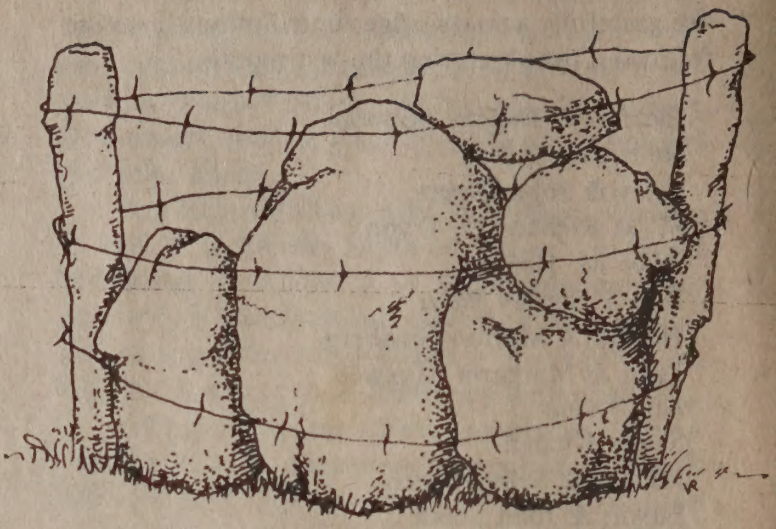

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